Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 L-03 FTC-01 JUSE-00 COME-00 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SEC-01 OPIC-03 /034 W

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R 141738Z SEP 77 FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4977

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: EINV, SNAR, MX

SUBJECT: IMPROPER PAYMENTS BY THE WHITTAKER CORPORATION

REF: STATE 020649

- 1. FERNANDO BAEZA, OFICIAL MAYOR, OF THE OFFICE OF THE MEXICAN ATTORNEY GENERAL, HAS ASKED EMBASSY OFFICERS FOR GUIDANCE IN OBTAINING INFORMATION WHICH THE WHITTAKER CORPORATION DISCLOSED VOLUNTARILY TO THE SEC ABOUT IMPROPER OVERSEAS PAYMENTS. HE HAS BEEN TOLD THAT WE WOULD NOTIFY THE DEPARTMENT OF HIS REQUEST, WHICH WOULD THEN REQUEST SEC TO MAKE AVAILABLE TO THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE THE RELEVANT INFORMATION. IF SEC AGREED, THE CURRENT AGREEMENT COVERING GENERAL TIRE/FIRESTONE COULD BE EXPANDED BY AN EXCHANGE OF NOTES. LIC. BAEZA WAS TOLD TO DIRECT HIS INQUIRY TO MR. JOHN C. KEENEY, DEPUTY ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL, CRIMINAL DIVISION, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.
- 2. THE TROJAN YACHT CO., A SUBSIDIARY OF WHITTAKER, IS CURRENTLY INVOLVED IN A COMMERCIAL DISPUTE WITH THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT. THE GOM CONTENDS THAT THE 100 LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FISHING BOATS IT BUILT, AT A COST OF \$13 MILLION, FOR THE MEXICAN FISHING AUTHORITY WERE DEFECTIVE. THE GOM WANTS TO REDUCE ITS PAYMENT BY \$1.9 MILLION. TROJAN AND GOM MAY AGREE TO ARBITRATION. ANOTHER SUBSIDIARY OF WHITTAKER, DESCO MARINE, IS INTERESTED IN BIDDING ON A GOM REQUEST FOR 70-75 SHRIMP BOATS WORTH ABOUT \$20 MILLION. IT IS UNLIKELY THE GOM WILL ACCEPT A BID FROM DESCO UNTIL THE

TROJAN MATTER IS SETTLED. LUCEY

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Event:
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Subject: IMPROPER PAYMENTS BY THE WHITTAKER CORPORATION

TAGS: EINV, SNAR, MX, SEC, WHITTAKER CORPORATION, TROJAN YATCH CO

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